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ENGLISH HISTORY READERS.



No. 1

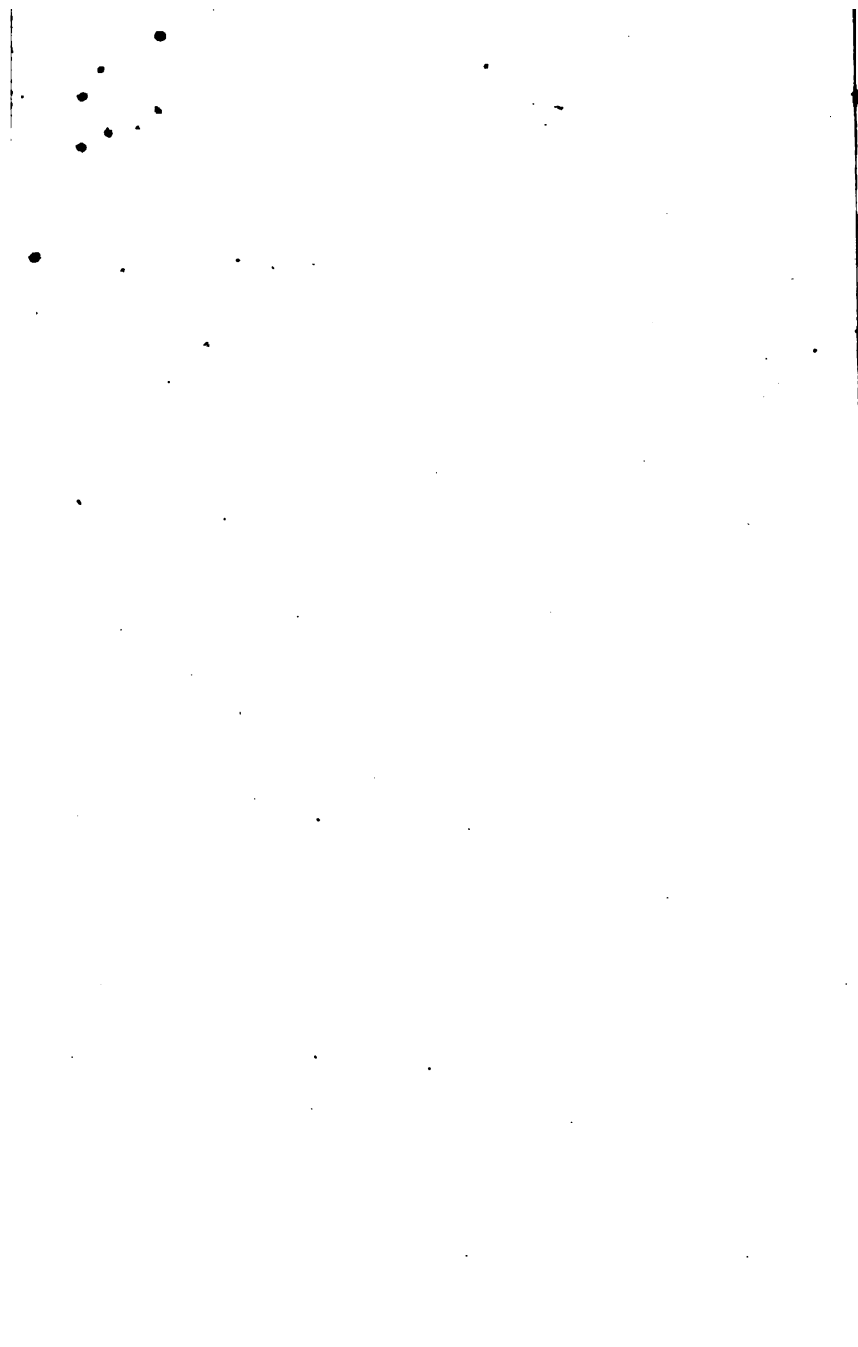
STORIES FROM
ENGLISH HISTORY

T. J. LIVESEY

BURNS AND OATES.







STORIES FROM ENGLISH HISTORY.

LONDON: BURNS AND OATES.

English History Readers.

No. I.

STORIES FROM ENGLISH HISTORY.

By T. J. LIVESEY,

HAMMERSMITH TRAINING COLLEGE;

AUTHOR OF "THE PRIMER OF ENGLISH HISTORY," "HOW TO TEACH READING,"
"HOW TO TEACH GRAMMAR," "HOW TO TEACH ARITHMETIC," ETC. ETC.

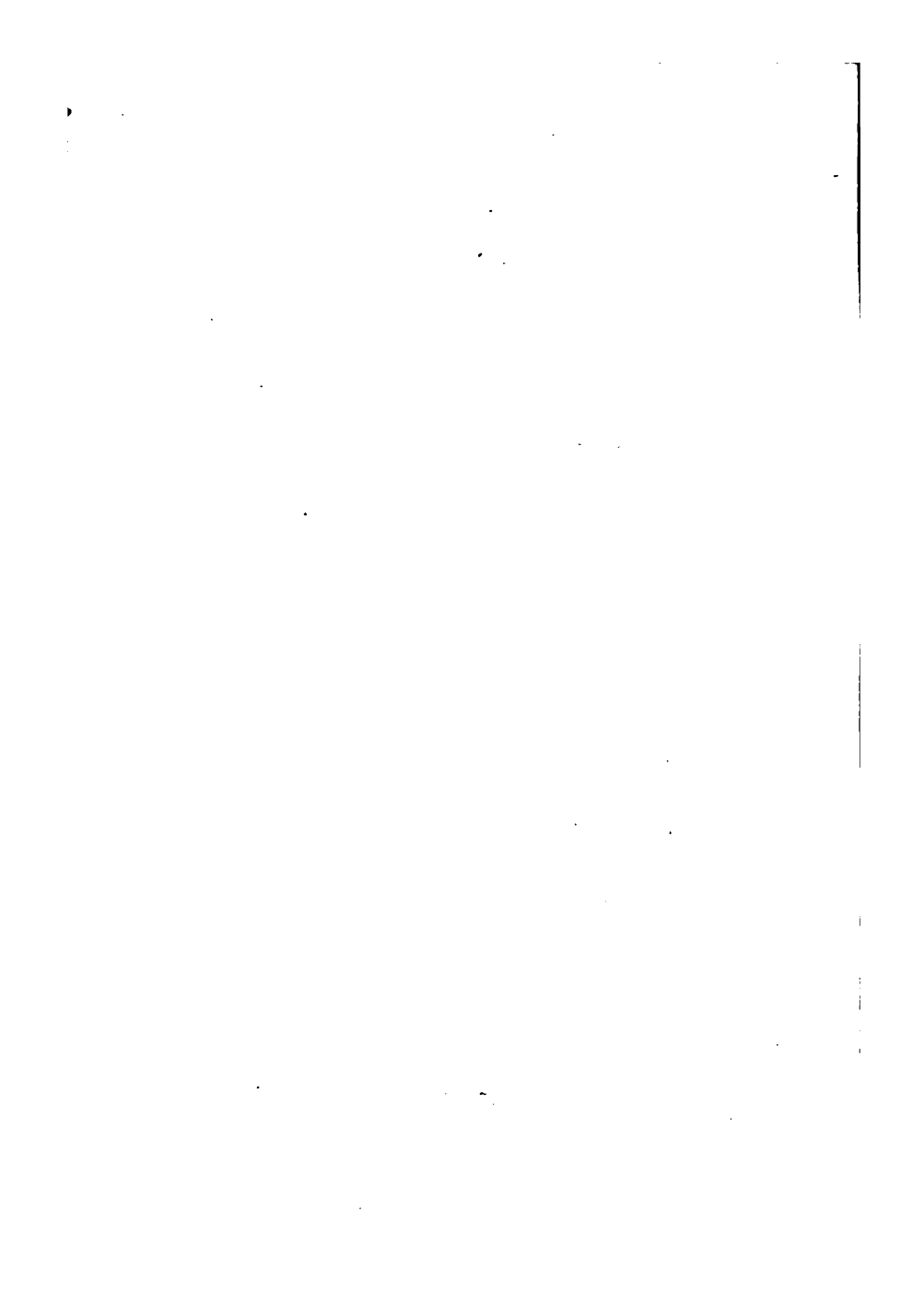
FOR STANDARD II.



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PREFACE.

THIS little book, written for young children, is but a stepping-stone to the more systematic study of English History.

Its chief purpose is to awaken an interest in the subject, and create in the children a desire to know more of it. Its aim is not so much to store the mind with facts, as to fill it with pictures of the past, that will live in the imagination and take root in the memory.

It dwells, therefore, only on the more striking and picturesque events in the life of the nation, and on such as are likely to be of interest to the young.

And as children are more interested in personal actions than in great national movements, much of the book is taken up with *personal history*—with tales of noble and heroic deeds, with stories of

human fortitude and suffering, and with noteworthy incidents in the lives of famous men.

Most of the chapters are divided into two parts, so that the book is broken up into *forty* sections or reading lessons.

The questions appended to each chapter are numbered to correspond with the paragraphs, and will serve as a guide and help to pupil teachers in examining on the lessons.

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PART I.

STORIES FROM ENGLISH HISTORY.

BRITAIN IN THE OLD DAYS (B.C. 100).

1. You all know that the land we live in is called England. We who live here, and have been born here, are called English; and our fathers, and our grandfathers, and our great - great - great - grandfathers were called English too. But a very long time ago, before the English came to live here, this country was called **Britain**, and the people who then lived in it were called **Britons**.

2. Now I want you to know, and to bear in mind, that Britain, in the old days, did not look as England does now; and that the old Britons did not live like us, or dress like us, or speak as we speak. I am going to tell you about people who lived two thousand years ago. Think what a long time that is—a hundred years before Christ was born! We speak of that time as B.C. 100, that is, one hundred years before Christ.

3. Now, if you had been living in this land of ours two thousand years ago—that is, in the year B.C. 100

—what would you have seen? I am sure you cannot tell me, so I will tell you. You would have seen the same hills as are to be seen to-day, and the same valleys, and rivers, and lakes. But little else would have been the same. You would have seen no busy towns, no quiet, cosy villages, with their church spires peeping out above the trees, no farms, no orchards or hop-gardens, no paved roads, no iron railways, no canals.

4. But, instead, you would have seen great dark woods, spreading far and wide, where the wolf and the bear had their dens; and broad still pools where the land was low; and patches of open country that the plough had never broken. Here and there you might have seen a number of mud-huts, on the edge of some forest, with a ditch dug round them, or trunks of trees piled up, to keep out the wild beasts. These were their towns in those days.

II.

5. And what were the people like, you will ask, in these old, old days? Well, they were tall, and fair; and had blue eyes, and long yellow hair. But they looked like, and lived like, savages. Most of them went half-naked, with only the skins of wild beasts round them, and they painted their bodies to make themselves look fierce.

6. Many of them were hunters, who lived on the animals they slew, and on the wild fruits that grew in the woods; some of them were herdsmen, who lived mostly on milk and the flesh of their



Naked Britons.

cattle; and a few, who dwelt in the south, and were less savage, tilled little patches of corn-land, and traded with merchants who now and then came to this island from lands beyond the seas.

7. I am sorry to tell you that these old Britons did not believe in the true God. They used to worship the sun, and moon, and the mistletoe that grows on the oak-tree. Their priests, who were called Druids, used to teach them that their souls, when they died, would go into the bodies of beasts; and that it was right, and pleasing to their gods, to burn their enemies whom they took in battle.

QUESTIONS.

1. What was this country called before the English came to it? What were the people called who lived in the country at that time?
 2. In what did the old Britons differ from us? What does 100 B.C. mean?
 3. What have we in these days that they had not then?
 4. What did the country look like in those days?
 5. What sort of people were the ancient Britons to look at? How did they dress?
 6. On what did the Britons live?
 7. What did they believe in? What were their priests called?
-

THE STORY OF THE ROMAN CONQUEST (B.C. 55).

1. One bright summer's morning, in the old days we have been speaking of, a great crowd of Britons stood on the white chalk cliffs of **Kent**. Every now and then, they looked across the narrow seas towards France, or **Gaul**, as it was called at that time.

2. It was plain that they were making ready for a battle. Every man was naked, his breast and

arms and face painted with new war-paint, and a weapon of some sort in his hand. Some had clubs, some had spears, some had flint-headed darts to throw at their foes, and a few of them had long blunt swords, and round shields of basket-work to guard their bodies with.

3. Most of them were on foot ; but a few rode on horseback ; and there were some who stood up in low wooden cars, drawn by two horses. These cars, or chariots, as they were called, had a sharp scythe sticking out from each wheel, which cut down men, as a mower cuts down grass.

4. But why were the Britons standing on the cliffs this bright summer's morning ? And why did they keep looking over the sea towards Gaul ? I will tell you. A ship had come in from Gaul with news that a Roman army, which had been fighting against the Gauls, was coming across the sea to conquer Britain.

5. I must tell you that the **Romans**, in those days, were the best fighters in all the world. They had conquered every nation between Rome, which is in Italy, and Britain ; and their captain, **Julius Caesar**—a pale, thin man, with a hook nose—was one of the best generals that ever lived.

6. The news, which the ship had brought, was true. The Britons soon spied, far out at sea, a number of black specks, that looked, at first, like a flock of sea-gulls. But as they came nearer and nearer, the Britons saw that they were Roman ships, full of Roman soldiers, whose bright brass helmets and brass breast-plates flashed in the summer sun.

II.

7. Before the noses of the Roman ships could touch the beach, the naked Britons dashed into the sea, and with savage war-shouts flung their darts at the Romans. For awhile, the Romans dared not leave their ships. But at last, a soldier who carried the Roman standard—a small brass eagle on a pole—leapt into the waves, and called out to his comrades, "Follow me!"

8. Then the Roman soldiers jumped into the sea. Grasping their short, sharp swords, and raising their great shields, to keep off the darts, they rushed in a long, solid line up the beach. The poor naked savages fought like lions, but they were no match for the brave and well-drilled soldiers of Rome; and before the close of that summer's day, the sands on the sea-beach were strewn with dead and dying, and the Britons had been driven back to their woods.

9. But they were not beaten yet. Cæsar had to go back to Gaul, and bring over more soldiers, and fight many more battles, before the Britons gave in, and agreed to call the Romans their masters.

QUESTIONS.

1. What was France called in the old days?
2. What sort of weapons did the old Britons use?
3. Did all the Britons fight on foot? What were their chariots like? What were they for?
4. Who came to fight the Britons? What did they come for?
5. Where did the Romans come from? What sort of men were they? Who was their great leader? What was he like?
6. What did the Roman soldiers wear on their heads and breasts? What for?
7. What did the Britons do when the Romans came near the shore? Who led the Romans?
8. Who won the battle? How was it the Romans won so easily?
9. Did the Britons give in at once? When did they give in?



The Landing of the Romans.

THE STORY OF KING CARADOC (A.D. 43).

1. When Julius Cæsar had beaten the Britons, he went back again to Rome ; and for the next hundred years, the Britons lived in peace. Then the Romans came back, and the fighting began again.

2. In those days there was a famous British king named **Caradoc**, whom the Romans called **Caractacus**. He was a brave warrior, and he loved his country above all things. For nine long years, he struggled against the Romans, and gave them blow for blow ; but he was driven back at last into the hill country of the west.

3. There is a big hill in Shropshire, with a swift river flowing at its foot, and the people to this day call it **Cæer Caradoc**, or Caradoc's Camp. Here the brave Caradoc fought his last battle. One day, his little band of Britons—all that was now left to him—were standing on this hill, when they saw a great Roman army marching up the valley. The Romans were ten to one, but Caradoc drew up his men behind walls of earth and loose stones, and called on them to defend their homes, and their native land, with the last drop of their blood.

4. The Romans came up, and dashed across the river, and made a rush up the hillside. The Britons flung their darts at them as they came on. But the Roman soldiers lifted their shields above their heads, and put them side by side, and made quite a roof of them ; so that the darts struck their shields and bounded off again, as you have seen the hail-stones bound off a roof in a pelting storm.

5. There was a fierce hand-to-hand fight on the hill-top, but it was soon over. The blunt swords of the Britons were useless against the brass armour, and the shields of the Romans, who thrust their sharp steel blades into the naked bodies of the savages, stabbing them through and through.

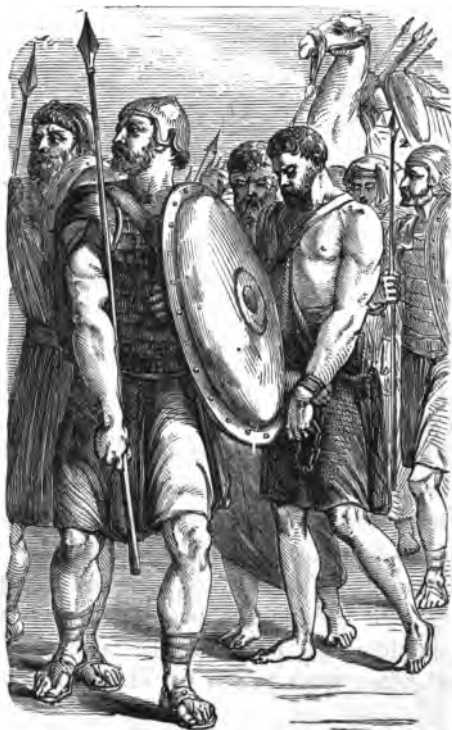
II.

6. The Britons were beaten, and King Caradoc and his wife and daughter fell into the hands of the Romans. Then they were put in chains, and sent to Rome as captives. It was a custom of the Romans when they took noble captives in battle, to lead them through their city, and make a great show of them, before putting them to death.

7. So Caradoc, with a train of captives, was led through the streets of Rome in triumph. People crowded the pathways, and windows, and housetops, to catch a sight of him, for all of them had heard of the tall blue-eyed savage, who had beaten the best soldiers of Rome in many a hard-fought battle. When Caradoc saw marble temples and rich palaces on every side of him, he could not help saying, "Why should these Romans, who have such grand houses at home, wish to rob me of my lowly hut in Britain?"

8. The captives were led before the **Emperor Claudius**, who sat on his throne in the open air; and as they came near him, they lifted up their chained hands, and wept, and cried aloud for mercy, —all but Caradoc.

9. King Caradoc was as calm and as fearless as ever; and as he stood before the Emperor, he looked so brave, and spoke so nobly, that Claudius spared



Caradoc led captive.

his life, and the lives of his family, and struck off his chains, and set him free again. Some of the old books tell us that Caradoc went back to Britain,

and was made a prince under the Romans; but nothing more, than what I have told you, is known about him for certain.

QUESTIONS.

1. For how long, after Julius Cæsar's days, were the Britons at peace? 2. What British king fought against the Romans? What sort of a man was he? How long did he hold out against the Romans? 3. Where did Caradoc fight his last battle? 4. How did the Romans screen themselves from the darts? 5. Say what you know about the fight on the hill-top. 6. What was the end of the battle? Where was Caradoc sent to? Why? 7. What did Caradoc say when he saw the grand buildings of Rome? 8. How did the captives behave? Did they all behave alike? 9. What did Claudius do to Caradoc? Why? What became of Caradoc?

THE STORY OF THE ENGLISH CONQUEST

(A.D. 449).

1. The Romans were masters of Britain for nearly four hundred years. They tamed the Britons; and taught them how to till the land, and build houses, and spin, and weave, and do many other useful things. And, best of all, they got them to give up their false gods, and taught them to be Christians.

2. But when the Romans left them, the poor Britons had a sad time of it. They were not so brave as their fathers had been, and they had never been taught to fight. So when they were left to themselves, the fierce **Scots** of the North came swarming into their country, burning their houses,



English Pirates.

and trampling down their corn-fields, and driving them back into the woods. And, in the South, fierce bands of sea-robbers roved the seas, now landing here, now landing there, and taking away with them corn and cattle, as much as their ships could hold.

3. These bold rovers of the sea were our very own **English** forefathers. They came from the forests of **Jutland**—Denmark we call it now—and from the German coast near the great rivers Elbe and Rhine. The Britons called them Saxons, but they, for the most part, called themselves **Angles**, or English. They were tall, brave, daring fellows, with fair hair and beards; true as steel to their friends, but fierce and cruel to their enemies. But how came these Angles, or English, to live here, and how came this land to be called Angle-land, or England? I will tell you.

II.

4. One day, when the savage Scots were wasting the land, three ships full of English warriors, in strong leather helmets, and coats made of iron rings, were seen cruising off the coast of Kent. When the British king heard of it, he sent word to the English pirates, that if they would land upon the coast, and help him to beat back the Scots, he would give them a part of Kent to live in.

5. So the English warriors came, under their two chiefs **Hengist** and **Horsa**, and drove back the Scots, and settled down in Kent for ever. But when

they had beaten the Scots, the English used their swords against the Britons themselves, and took the whole of Kent from them, and made Hengist their king.

6. And by and by, more and more English war-bands came, and landed in other parts, and drove the Britons away, and settled down upon their lands. And in this way, bit by bit, the Britons were driven back and back from east to west, till, in the end, they had only the mountains left to live in. And there they have lived ever since. The English called them **Welsh**, which means "Strangers," and we call them Welsh to this day, and the country they live in we still call **Wales**. In a hundred years after the landing of Hengist and Horsa, the Angles, or English, were masters of this land, and it has been called **Angle-land**, or **England**, from that day to this.

QUESTIONS.

1. How long were the Romans masters of Britain? What did they teach the Britons? 2. How did the Britons fare when they were left to themselves—in the North—in the South? 3. Where did our English forefathers come from? What sort of men were they? 4. Who sent for the English to come here? Why? 5. What did the English do when they had driven back the Scots? 6. How came the land to be full of English? Where were the Britons driven to? What were they called? What was their country called by the English? What does the word "England" mean?

HOW THE ENGLISH BECAME CHRISTIANS

(A.D. 596).

1. When the English first settled in this land, they were pagans, and did not believe in the true God. They used to worship the **Sun**, and the **Moon**, and many other false gods. One of these was **Thor**, the thunder God—whose hammer they thought they heard in the thunder-clap. Another was **Woden**, the great God of war, who, they said, was the father of their kings. The English named the days of the week after their gods. Thus, Sunday meant the Sun's day, Monday the Moon's day, Wednesday was Woden's day, and Thursday was the day given up to Thor.

2. It was a strange, wild, warlike sort of faith. They thought that only those who died in battle would be happy for ever with the gods, where they would hunt or fight all day, and have as much boar's flesh and ale as they could eat and drink.

3. But better days were coming. I must tell you that at this time, England was not ruled by one king. There were seven kings and seven kingdoms, and they often went to war with each other. When they took captives in battle, they sometimes sold them as slaves; and traders came from far-off lands to buy them.

4. One day some English boys, who had been carried off as slaves, were standing in the market-place at Rome, waiting for some one to buy them, when a good priest named **Gregory** came walking by. When he saw their sweet fair faces, their blue

eyes, and their golden hair, he had pity on the children, and asked of what nation they were. Some one said to him, "They are Angles." "They should be angels," said the priest, "for they have the faces of angels." Then he asked what country they came from; and when they told him, he said, "The praises of God shall be sung in that land."

5. Years went on, and the good priest was made Pope, or Bishop of Rome; but he did not forget the poor English children. When he heard that an English king of Kent had married a Christian princess named **Bertha**, he sent a monk named **Augustine**, with forty other monks, to go and preach the Gospel to the English.

II.

6. The monks went, and landed in Kent, and sent word to the king, telling him why they had come. **King Ethelbert** said he would hear what they had to say, but he dare not let them into his house for fear they should bewitch him. So he sat on his throne under an oak-tree, and the monks, marching two by two, and bearing a silver cross and a banner of the Saviour, came before him,—singing as they came.

7. When Ethelbert had heard all they had to say about the true God, and Jesus Christ, he said to them, "Your words and promises seem fair, but they are new and strange to me, and I cannot, at once, give up the gods of my fathers. But you can stay in this land, and I will give you food and shelter; and if any man will believe as you believe, I will let him." And he gave them his own palace



St. Augustine preaching to the men of Kent.

to live in; and let them build a church near it, where now stands the **Cathedral of Canterbury**.

8. So they stayed in Kent, and preached the Gospel; and, after a time, King Ethelbert and all his people became Christians. And from Kent the faith spread and spread; and one hundred years after the landing of St. Augustine, all England had become Christian.

QUESTIONS.

1. What did the English worship when they first came to this country? Show that the names of their gods are still kept in the days of the week. 2. Who did they think went to heaven? What did they do there? 3. How many kingdoms were there in England in those days? 4. How did the English slaves get to Rome? Who saw them? What did he say about them? 5. What became of the good priest? How did he show that he did not forget the English children? 6. To whom did the monks preach? Where? 7. How did Ethelbert receive them? What did he say to them? 8. What good did the monks do by their preaching? How long was it before all England was Christian?

KING ALFRED THE GREAT (A.D. 871-900).

HIS EARLY LIFE.

1. I must tell you now of the good King **Alfred**, the wisest, bravest, and best of all our English kings. I am sure you will learn to love him, for he loved England dearly, and spent his whole life in doing good for his people. His father was King **Ethelwulf**, and his mother's name was **Osburgh**.

2. There is a story told about her which I think you would like to know. Little Alfred was taught to hunt, and ride, and shoot with bow and arrows, before he was taught to read. But his mother used to read to him the brave old English songs, and he loved to sit at her feet and listen to them. One day the queen had a pretty book of songs, with nice pictures in it, and letters painted in gold, and calling her children to her, she said, "I will give this pretty book to the one who can read it first." "Will you indeed, mother?" said Alfred, who was the youngest of the children. "Yea, son, I will," said Osburgh. Then Alfred went at once and found a master, and sat down to the book day after day, until he could read it right through. So he won it as his prize, and was proud of it ever after.

II.

3. But hard days were in store for Alfred. Fierce bands of sea-robbers, called **Danes**, had for many years been making war upon the English. They came from Denmark and the countries near it, and were kinsmen of the English. But they were more fierce and cruel than the English had ever been; and now that the English were Christians, they hated them for it, and burned their churches, and broke down their altars, and slew their priests in cold blood.

4. At first when they came, they used to land

on some lonely coast, or sail up some quiet river, and steal corn and cattle, and go away again. But after a time, they came in swarms, and drove the people from their homes, and took their lands, and settled down upon them. In the days when Alfred became king, the Danes had settled in the north and east of England, and were trying to conquer the whole kingdom.

5. So when Alfred came to the throne he had to fight against the Danes. For some years he kept them in check, and beat them in many a battle. But one night—it was Twelfth Night—the English were feasting, when the Danes burst in upon them and slew a great many. King Alfred, with a little band, fled for safety to a lonely spot called **Athelney**, in the west country; and there, among marshes and woods, he hid himself, till he could muster an army to lead against the Danes.

6. While he was hiding, he lived in the hut of a shepherd, whose wife did not know that he was the king. One day she put some cakes to bake, and asked Alfred to watch them, while she went to gather sticks in the wood. But Alfred was busy mending his bow, and thinking about the Danes, and he forgot all about the cakes and let them burn. When the woman came back and saw the cakes burning, she flew into a passion and scolded the king right well, telling him he was an idle, good-for-nothing fellow, who was too lazy to turn the cakes, though he wasn't too lazy to eat them.

QUESTIONS.

1. What kind of a man was King Alfred? Who were his father and mother? 2. How came little Alfred to learn to read? 3. Who were the Danes? Where did they come from? What sort of men were they? 4. What did the Danes come for at first? at last? 5. How did Alfred get on with the Danes at first? Where did he seek shelter? 6. Tell the story of the cakes.

HOW ALFRED SAVED HIS COUNTRY.

1. One day, as King Alfred was in the shepherd's cot, thinking how he could over-come the Danes, one of his trusty spies came running in to him with good news. Some of the Danes had been beaten back in trying to land on the west coast, and their black Raven flag had been taken by the English.

2. This was good news indeed. The Raven flag, I must tell you, was a famous banner that had been woven by the daughter of a great Danish sea-king. It was thought to have magic power. The Danes said they could tell, by the way the raven held its wings, whether they were to win or lose a battle.

3. So you may be quite sure that the Danes were down-hearted when their Raven banner had been lost, and the English were in high spirits, and felt sure that better days were coming.

4. Then King Alfred came out from his hiding-place. He was very cheerful, and full of hope, for now was the time to strike a blow at the Danes. So he dressed himself as a minstrel, and took his harp with him, and stole by night into the Danish

camp. New Alfred could play well upon the harp, and the Danish king, **Gothrun**, and his soldiers were much pleased with him, and got him to play for them while they drank and sang and made merry.

5. But all the time, Alfred kept his eyes and ears



Alfred playing before Gothrun.

open. He strolled about the camp for two or three days, counting the Danish soldiers, and seeing which were their strong points, and which were their weak ones.

6. And when he had learned all he wished to

learn, he stole back to his hiding-place, and sent word to all the men of the west to meet him on a certain day in the forest. Then he led them against the Danes, and there was a great battle fought at **Ethandune** (now called Edington) in Wiltshire; and the Danes were badly beaten, and had to beg for peace.

7. King Alfred granted them peace on these terms: they were to march out of the west country, and settle down quietly in the east, and become Christians, and live as English subjects. And they did. King Gothrun was baptized, and King Alfred was his god-father. Then he went, with all his men, to live in the east; and he always looked up to King Alfred as his lord, and was good friends with him ever after.

QUESTIONS.

1. What good news was brought to King Alfred in the hut?
2. What do you know about the Raven flag?
3. What change came over the English and the Danes when the Raven flag was taken?
4. What did King Alfred do?
5. What did Alfred take notice of in the Danish camp?
6. What did he do when he had learned all about the Danes? Where did he fight the Danes? Who won?
7. What terms did Alfred grant the Danes? What became of King Gothrun?

HOW A DANE CAME TO BE KING OF ENGLAND (A.D. 978-1013).

1. A hundred years had come and gone since the days of the good King Alfred, and there sat on the throne of England a king named **Ethelred**.

Now Ethelred was a foolish, idle, good-for-nothing king. He was always doing things at wrong times, for when the right time came, he was never ready; and so men gave him the nickname of Ethelred the **Unready**.

2. In his day, as in the days of King Alfred, Danish pirates came sailing over the sea, and they made war upon the English. They set fire to villages along the coast; they robbed the churches and the abbeys; they stole from the farmers their corn and cattle, and those who said them nay were cruelly slain, or carried off and sold as slaves.

3. I have told you that Ethelred was a silly king. I am sorry to add that he was a bit of a coward as well; for instead of fighting the Danes, as King Alfred had done, he gave them money to go away. But they soon came back again, you may be sure; and every time they came, the king had to give them more money to get rid of them, for he was never ready to offer them battle.

4. At last the king made up his mind to do a mad and cruel deed. You know already that, at one time and another, a great many Danes had settled down in England. Some were hardy fishermen; some were quiet farmers; some were busy tradesmen; and most of them were honest, hard-working, harmless folks.

5. Now King Ethelred sent word, in secret, that the English, on a certain day, were to rise up and murder these Danes. And when the day came—it was St. Brice's Day—every Dane that could be found in the west country was put to the sword—

man, woman, and child. Some were stabbed in their beds; some were cut down as they stood at the plough; some were slain in the streets and workshops; and trembling crowds, who fled into the churches, were put to death at the altar steps.

II.

6. Among those who fell on St. Brice's Day, was a fair and noble lady named **Gunhild**. Though she was own sister to Sweyn, king of Denmark, her noble birth could not save her. She saw her dear husband and her darling boy dragged out, and slain before her eyes; but she told her murderers, with her dying lips, that her brother of Denmark would avenge her death.

7. And so he did. When news flew to Denmark that Gunhild had been slain, **King Sweyn**, "of the forked beard," swore to pluck the crown from the brow of Ethelred. He put out to sea with a mighty fleet, and landed a host of warriors on the shores of England. For three years, the Danes carried fire and sword from one end of the land to the other; and their path could be traced by ruined churches, blazing villages, and all the horrors of a bloody war.

8. Now Sweyn had a son, a famous warrior, named **Canute**; and Ethelred, too, had a son, so hardy and brave that they called him **Edmund Ironside**. So Canute and Ironside—for Ethelred had fled across the seas—fought for the kingdom. It was a hard fight; the men of the east sided

with Ironside, and the men of the west with Canute; but all of a sudden, Edmund Ironside



Landing of the Danes.

died, and Canute the Dane was made king of England.

QUESTIONS.

1. Why was King Ethelred called the Unready? 2. Who made war upon Ethelred? 3. How did Ethelred deal with the Danes? 4. What sort of people were the Danes who had settled down in England? 5. What did Ethelred do to these Danes? 6. What noble lady was slain on St. Brice's Day? What did she threaten before she died? 7. What did King Sweyn do when he heard the news? 8. What two men fought for the kingdom? Who became king?

STORIES OF KING CANUTE THE GREAT.

1. And so **Canute** the Dane sat on the throne of England, and he was such a good, and wise, and noble king that men called him Canute the Great. He ruled his people well. He made the laws the same for rich and for poor, for English and for Dane; and his people lived in peace, and loved him very much. He became a Christian too, and built up the churches and abbeys which his fathers had burned down.

2. But of all the abbeys which King Canute raised up, he loved none so well as **Ely**; and he often went there on the great feast days of the year. The abbey of Ely stood on an island amid the marshes of the Fen country, and the king could only get there by water. One evening, as he was rowed to the abbey, the chant of the monks, singing their evening hymn, floated sweetly over the quiet waters; and as it fell upon the king's ears his heart was so glad that he began to sing. He

made the song himself; and this is how it ran:—

“ Merrily sang the monks of Ely
As Canute the king rowed thereby;
‘Row, men, row, to land draw near,
And let us the song of the good monks hear.’ ”

3. Another time it was winter, when the king and his men set out for Ely. The waters were frozen over, but no one was sure that the ice would bear. While the king and those with him stood in doubt, up came a country fellow, who was so fat that the folks about Ely called him Pudding. “Are you afraid to cross?” said Pudding. “Let me go before the king.” “Do!” said the king, “and I will follow you. You are a big and heavy man, I am small and light; and what will bear you will surely bear me.” And so the man crossed over, and the king went after him; and it was a lucky day for Pudding, for the king gave him a good slice of land for his pains.

II.

4. There is a famous story of King Canute which I must not forget to tell you. There were many of those who served the king who used to praise him too much, or flatter him. One day, when he was by the sea-shore, some of them came to him and told him that he was lord of land and sea, and that even the waves would obey him. “Will they?” said he. “Then bring out my chair and set it near the sea.” So they brought out his chair,

and set it on the sands ; and the tide was coming in.

5. Canute sat down, and said, " Roll back thy waves, O Sea ; and wet not my feet, for I am thy



Canute and his Flatterers.

lord and master." But the waves came on, and on, till they wetted the king's feet and clothes too. Then turning to the foolish men, he said, " See how

weak is the power of kings and men ; the waves do not heed me. Give honour like this to God alone, for Him only do all things obey." And from that day, King Canute never wore his crown, but set it on the image of our Lord in the old church at **Winchester**.

QUESTIONS.

1. What sort of a king was Canute? What did he do to show he was a good king? 2. Tell the story of Canute and the monks of Ely. 3. Tell the story of King Canute and "Pudding." 4. Tell the story of King Canute and his flatterers.

THE STORY OF THE NORMAN CONQUEST

(A.D. 1066).

THE LANDING OF THE NORMANS.

1. I have told you how Canute the Dane became king of England. His sons too were kings of England, but when they died, the crown came back to Ethelred's son—**King Edward the Good**.

2. But King Edward had no children, so, at his death, the wise men of the nation had to choose a king. They chose the wisest and bravest man in all the land—**Earl Harold**, and made him their king.

3. But there was another man who wanted to be king. This was William, duke of Normandy, or, as we now call him, **William the Conqueror**. He was a great and brave man, who had come of a brave

race of sea-kings. The **Normans**, or Northmen, were kinsmen of the Danes and Angles. They, too, had been fierce pirates; but they had settled down in the north of France, and had come to be the ablest and bravest men in all the world.

4. Duke William, as I have told you, had set his heart on the crown of England. He said that King Edward, who was a cousin of his, had told him he would leave it to him, and that Harold himself had sworn to help him to the throne.

5. So William the Norman was very angry when he heard that Harold was made king, and he got a great army ready to come and conquer England. When King Harold heard what William was going to do, he kept his ships sailing up and down the Channel, and set his soldiers to guard the south coast, where he thought the Normans would land.

6. But while Harold was at **Hastings**, waiting for Duke William to come, bad news was brought him from the north. His wicked brother **Tostig**, who had been driven from the country, had come back to make war upon him; and the **King of Norway**,



Norman Knight.

with a host of warriors, had come with him to help him. As soon as Harold heard it, he set out for **Yorkshire**, with all the troops he could muster, and marched day and night, till he came up with his brother, and beat him in a great battle.

7. King Harold gave a feast at York, in honour of the victory; but while they sat at table, a man rushed in, all splashed with mud, and tired with long riding, and told the king that the Normans had landed in England. "It is bad news," said King Harold; "had I been there, they would not have set a foot on land, but I could not be there and here too." He broke up the feast at once; and, telling his soldiers to hurry after him, set off for the south as fast as he could go.

II. THE BATTLE OF HASTINGS.

8. On a dull October morning, the English and Norman armies stood face to face, on the breezy downs near **Hastings**. Harold's troops stood on the slope of a hill—every man on foot. In front of them, they had driven in stakes and branches of trees, and set up their shields against them like a wall. The men of Kent and the king's own guards were in the front line. King **Harold** stood in the centre, and over him waved the royal flag—a fighting man in gold. "Stand fast, my men," said King Harold, "and ply your battle-axes well; if you break your ranks, we are lost!"

9. The Norman archers began the battle, and their arrows flew like rain before the wind. But the

English, behind their shield wall, cared no more for their arrows, than they would have cared for a shower of rain. The Norman foot soldiers, with their long pikes, came next; but they went back down the hill faster than they came. Then the Norman horse-men, in steel armour, rode up, and



William driving back the Troops at Hastings.

flung themselves on the English. But Harold, and his brave troops, stood as firm as a rock, and horses and men fell thick and fast, under the stroke of their deadly battle-axes. The Normans turned and fled.

10. The word went round that the duke was slain, and the Normans began to give way all along

their line. But the next moment, William was seen driving back the troops, and calling out to them, as he drew up his helmet, "Look! I am alive! and, by God's help, I will still conquer."

11. From nine in the morning till sunset, the fight went on. Again, and again, did the Normans rush up the hill slope, and again, and again, were they driven back.

12. But when the sun was going down, Duke William told his archers to shoot up in the air, so that their arrows should fall down on the heads of the English. One of the arrows pierced King Harold's eye, and, with the blood streaming down his face, he fell amid a heap of dead, under the flag that bore the figure of the fighting man. Then, but not till then, the English began to give way; and though they fought till it was dark, Duke William won the battle, and won, with it, the crown of England.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who became king after Canute's sons? 2. Who was made king at Edward's death? 3. Who wanted to be king? Who were the Normans? 4. What right had William to expect the crown? 5. What did he do when he heard that Harold was made king? What did Harold do? 6. What took place while Harold was waiting for William's coming? 7. What news was brought to Harold at York? What did he do when he heard it? 8. Where was the Battle of Hastings fought? How did Harold place his troops? 9. Who began the battle? 10. What did the Normans do when they thought William was killed? What did William do when he saw them run? 11. How long did the battle last? 12. What put an end to the battle? How was Harold killed? What did William gain by the battle?

THE WRECK OF THE "WHITE SHIP"

(A.D. 1120).

1. **Henry**, the youngest son of the Conqueror, in his turn, was made king of England ; and as he was the first king of that name, he was called Henry the First.

2. Now King Henry had an only son, **Prince William**, whom he loved very much ; and when the prince was eighteen years old, he took him to Normandy, and made him duke over the Normans.

3. When the king and his son came to the coast, to take ship again to England, up came a sea-captain, named **Fitz-Stephen**, and said to the king, " My father, O king, was captain of the good ship, that bore your father over the sea to the conquest of England. I also have a fine vessel, named the '**White Ship**,' rowed by fifty bold sailors. There she is, rocking in the bay, and ready to put to sea. Let me, I pray you, steer you to England, as my father steered your father, in the days gone by."

4. " I am sorry," said the king, " that I cannot take your offer, for I have already chosen my vessel ; but my son, the young prince, shall sail with you in the '**White Ship**,' and you shall follow me to England."

5. The king's ship set sail ; and Prince William and his sister, with a gay company of knights and ladies, went on board the "**White Ship**." The young prince called Fitz-Stephen to him, and said, " Bring out three casks of wine, and give them to the fifty bold rowers who are to row us across the sea. Bid them drink and be merry, for we

shall not start till midnight." And the bold rowers drank the three casks of wine, and the prince, with the knights and ladies, danced on the deck by the light of the full moon. At last the anchor was lifted, the square sail was hoisted, the fifty bold rowers sat down to their oars, and away sped the "White Ship" over the moonlit sea.

6. But the "White Ship" had not gone far, when loud and fearful shrieks were heard upon the silent waters. It had struck upon a rock, and it began, at once, to fill and sink. Fitz-Stephen pushed the prince, with a few nobles, into a small boat, and bade them row for their lives to the land. But as they rowed away, the prince heard the voice of his sister **Marie**, calling to him from the ship. "Stop, men!" he cried; "for God's sake, stop! Row back to the ship; I cannot leave my sister to perish in the sea." So they rowed back, and drew near to the ship, but so many leapt into the boat that it sank under the heavy load.

II.

7. There were two men who held on to a broken mast. One of them, who had on a warm sheep-skin coat, was a butcher called **Berthold**; the other was a young noble named **Godfrey**. As they drifted with the tide, on that cold December night, they saw another man come swimming towards them. When they caught sight of his long hair, and heard him speak, they knew him to be Fitz-Stephen. "What has become of the prince?"

said the captain. "He is drowned," said the men, "and his sister also, and all who were with them in the 'White Ship.'" "Oh, woe is me!" said the captain, and, throwing up his arms, he sank under the waves.

8. The two men clung to the mast for some hours; but at last the young noble said, "I



Wreck of the "White Ship."

feel weak, and faint. My hands have grown as cold as ice, and I cannot hold on any longer." As he let go his grip, he called out to the butcher, "Good - bye, friend, and God keep you safe!" In the grey of the morning, the people on shore saw the poor butcher, with his arm round the broken spar, and they put out a boat, and brought him safe to land. He was the only one left to

tell the sad tale of the wreck of the "White Ship."

9. For many days, no one dare tell the king of his great loss. But at last, a little boy was sent in to him. On his knees, and with tears in his eyes, the boy told the king that the "White Ship" had gone down, and that his son, Prince William, had been drowned. The king fell upon the floor, at the news, like one struck dead, and from that day to the day of his death, he was never again seen to smile.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who was King Henry the First? 2. What did he make his son when he was eighteen? 3. Who offered to take them back to England? What did the captain say to the king? 4. What did the king say to the captain? 5. Who went on board the "White Ship"? What did Prince William say to the captain? What did the sailors do, and the knights and ladies? 6. What happened to the "White Ship"? What did the captain do when he found the ship sinking? How did the prince behave? 7. Who held on to the broken mast? Who swam up to them? What did he say and do? 8. What became of Godfrey? of Berthold? 9. Who told the king the news? How did the king take it?

THE STORY OF RICHARD THE LION

(A.D. 1189-99).

1. There was once a king of England, who was so brave and daring, that men called him **Richard of the Lion Heart**. He was a big, strong, handsome man, with great blue eyes, and bright yellow hair. No other man in England could use his battle-axe;

no man could stand up, or keep his saddle, against the thrust of his lance.

2. He was so fond of war that, as soon as he was made king, he set off to the Holy Land to fight against the **Turks**, who had taken the Holy City from the Christians.



Richard and the Turks.

3. Many other Christian princes took part in this "**Holy War**," but none of them were so brave as King Richard. Mounted on his good steed, and with his battle-axe in hand, he would rush alone into the midst of the Turks, and cut them down as a reaper cuts down the corn. They were so afraid of him at last, that at the very sight of

him, they would put spurs to their horses, and fly for their lives.

4. But Richard was very proud, and had a hasty temper, and some of the other princes did not like him. One by one, they went away and left him, and, at last, he had not troops enough to carry on the war. Then he fell very sick of fever, and had to come home to England to get well again.

5. The Turks were glad to be rid of him. For years after he had gone, the very name of Richard was a word of fear to all of them. If a Turk's horse shied at a shadow, his master would say, "How now! dost thou see King Richard?" And when mothers used to rock their babes to sleep, they would say to them, "Hush! Be good! or I will give you to King Richard!"

II.

6. On his way home, Richard was wrecked in the Gulf of Venice, and found himself in the Duke of Austria's country. Now, **Leopold, Duke of Austria**, was one of the Christian princes who did not like King Richard, and had had a quarrel with him during the "Holy War." King Richard knew that the duke would do him harm if he could; so he dressed himself as a poor man, and, taking a boy with him, tried to make his way through **Germany**.

7. But he fell ill on the way, and had to send the boy to market to buy food. The boy

had a rich glove in his belt, such as only princes and nobles wore, and when the people saw him, they guessed who he was, and made him tell where his master was staying.

8. A band of soldiers came to the house, and knocked at the door. Richard leapt up and drew his sword. He was too weak to fight, but he said he would give in to no one but their leader. Then their leader stepped out, and who should it be but Leopold, duke of Austria !

9. So Duke Leopold got Richard in his power, and had him sent to a lonely castle among the hills ; and soldiers were set over him, with drawn swords, to watch him night and day.

10. There is a pretty story told of how Richard's prison was found out, but I am not sure that it is true. King Richard was fond of music, and he had a minstrel called **Blondel**, who was often with him, and whom he liked very much. The king and Blondel used to play and sing together, and there was one song they sang that the king himself had made. When Blondel heard that King Richard was in prison, he set off for Germany to find him out. He went about from castle to castle, but could see nothing or hear nothing of his master.

11. One evening, he came to a lonely castle among the hills, and as he felt tired and weary, he sat him down under the walls to rest. Soon, he heard a sweet voice, singing a song that he knew right well. It was the song that the king had made. Could it be the king that was singing

in his dungeon ? He strained his ears to listen. When the first verse was ended, Blondel took up the song, and sang the second verse. Then the king, for it was Richard himself, knew that Blondel had found him out, and that he would soon be free again. And so he was. His own people loved him so much, that they paid a great price for his freedom, and when he landed in England, there was such joy as never was.

QUESTIONS.

1. What sort of a man was King Richard ? 2. What war did he take part in ? 3. How did he behave in battle ? 4. How did he get on with the other princes ? 5. What did the Turks think about him ? What did they use his name for ? 6. What happened to King Richard on his way home ? Why did he put on the dress of a poor man ? 7. How was he found out ? 8. Who came to the house where he was ? 9. What did Duke Leopold do to him ? 10. What did Blondel do when he heard that the king was in prison ? 11. How did he find him out ?

THE BLACK PRINCE AT THE BATTLE OF CRESSY (A.D. 1346).

1. One of the bravest and best-loved kings that England ever had was **King Edward the Third**. He was a wise king, and was just and kind to his own people, but he was very fond of war, and, like most warriors, he was now and then cruel.

2. He had a son, who was so gentle, and brave, and handsome, that all men loved him ; and, as he wore black armour, they called him the **Black Prince**.

3. When his uncle—the King of France—died and left no son, King Edward thought he had a right to the French throne ; and when his cousin was made king instead of him, he went over to France and made war against him. The Black Prince, who was then sixteen years old, went with his father, and they won many battles against the French, one of which, called the **Battle of Cressy**, I will now tell you of.

4. The English had got to a village called **Cressy**, which is in the north of France, when they heard that the French king, with an army three times as large as theirs, was coming up to fight them. So the king told his soldiers to halt ; and, with great skill, he drew them up in lines of battle, on a hill-side near Cressy. As he rode from rank to rank, cheering the soldiers, and giving his orders, he looked so noble and brave, that every man felt sure he would win the battle. When he had seen that his soldiers were in good trim, and ready for the fight, he told them to sit down, and eat, and rest themselves, and gave orders for every man to have a cup of good wine.

5. As the French came in sight, the English leapt to their feet, and set up a great shout, and would have rushed to meet them. But the king kept them in check. "Steady, men ! steady !" he said ; "there must be no noise, no breaking of your ranks ;" and then the soldiers stood still, and waited in silence for the coming on of the French. But while they were yet afar off, big black clouds came sweeping across the sky, the lightning flashed, the thunder

rolled, and the rain came pelting down. Then the sky grew clear again, and the sun shone out bright and warm, for it was a summer's afternoon.

6. As soon as the storm was over, the French archers, who were in front of the army, came on, leaping and shouting, and let fly their arrows at the English. But the rain had wet their bow-strings, and their arrows all fell short.

7. Then the English archers, who had kept their bows dry, in cases, drew their bow-strings to their ears, and took good aim. The arrows fell thick and fast, as you have seen the snow-flakes fall on a winter's day, and pierced the faces and hands and bodies of the Frenchmen through and through. No men could have stood up against a fire so true and fierce, and the French bow-men soon turned on their heels, and ran away.

II.

8. But the French horse-men came bravely on. They spurred their horses into the very midst of the English, and kept up a fierce fight till dusk. The Black Prince, who led the English knights, drove them back, again and again, but as fast as they were beaten back, more came on, and it was hard work for the prince to hold his ground.

9. A knight, who saw what danger he was in, rode off to the king, who was watching the battle from a wind-mill, and asked him to send help to the prince. "Is my son killed or hurt?" said the king. "No, sire," said the knight. "Then tell him," said

the king, "he shall have no help from me. Let the boy win the battle himself, and the glory of the day shall be his."



Meeting of Edward III. and the Black Prince after Cressy.

10. The king's words gave the prince and his soldiers fresh courage. They dashed at the French

with all their might. The French king was wounded, and fled for his life; his best captains were cut down and killed; and, as darkness came on, the whole French army turned and ran away, leaving thousands of their comrades dead upon the field.

11. It was quite dark, and camp-fires had been lit, and the torches were blazing, when the king came forth to meet his son. He took the boy in his arms, and, clasping him to his breast, said to him, "My son, my dear son, may God give you grace to go on as you have begun. You have done nobly this day, and shown that you are worthy to be a king." The boy looked down and blushed, and said all the praise was due to his father; and when King Edward saw how brave his son had been in battle, and how modest he was after it, it gave him more joy than the great victory of Cressy.

QUESTIONS.

1. What sort of a king was Edward the Third? 2. Why was Edward's son called the Black Prince? What sort of a prince was he? 3. Why did Edward go to war with France? Who went with him? 4. How did Edward prepare for the battle of Cressy? 5. What took place when the French came in sight? 6. Who began the battle? Did the French archers do much harm? Why? 7. What did the English archers do? 8. How did the French horsemen fight? 9. How do you know the prince was in danger? Say what passed between the knight and the king. 10. What was the effect of the king's message? 11. What took place between the king and the prince after the battle?

THE GOOD QUEEN AND THE BRAVE CITIZENS

(A.D. 1346).

1. King Edward the Third, after his victory at Cressy, marched on and on, till he came to the town of **Calais**. If you look at the map, you will see that Calais is a sea-port in the north-east corner of France. Now the king was vexed with the people of Calais; for many of them were pirates, and they had often taken English ships, and burned them, and tried to ruin the trade of England on the seas.

2. But Calais was a very strong city, with thick, high walls, and a deep ditch round it; and Edward thought it would be easier to starve the people out, than to break down the walls, and take the town by force. So he drew up his soldiers in a ring round Calais, to keep people from taking food into the city; and gave orders for his fleet to cruise off the coast, and stop every ship that tried to get in or out of the port.

3. Now, and again, a French ship would steal in, by night, with bread for the starving people; but what was one ship load, or ten ship loads, among so many? Yet they held out for a whole year; and when their meat was done, they ate horses, and dogs, and cats, and rats, rather than give in to the English. But at last, there was nothing left to eat; the people had grown lean, and pale, and sickly; and they sent word to King Edward that they would give up the city, if he would spare their lives, and let them go free.

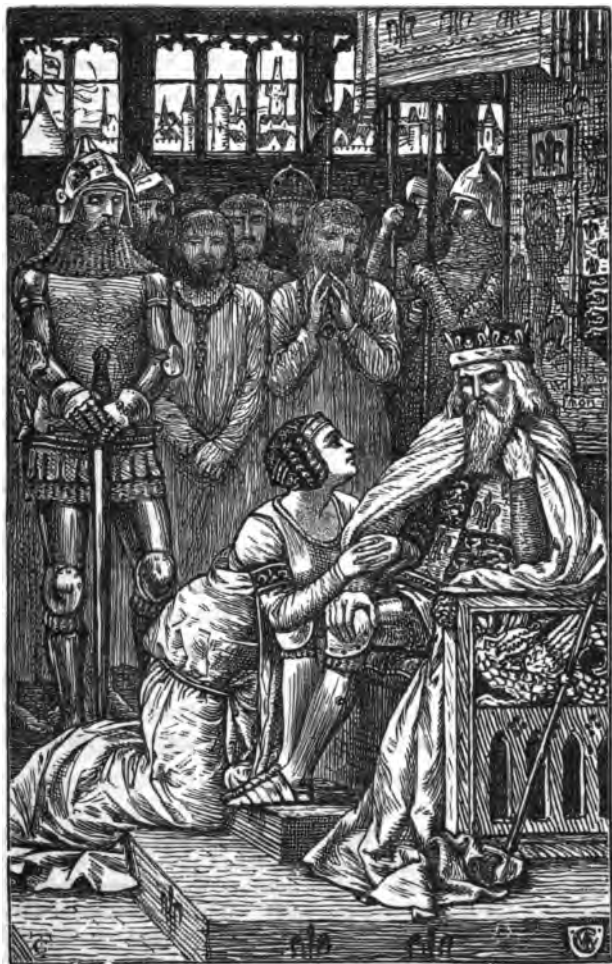
4. But the king was angry, and would not hear

of it. "If the men of Calais," he said, "will send to me six of the chief citizens in their shirts, having their heads and feet bare, and with ropes round their necks, and the keys of the city in their hands, I will work my will on these six, but I will spare all the rest."

5. Then the great church bell was rung to call the people of Calais together. When they heard what the king had said, they wept and wrung their hands, but no one spoke a word. At last a rich citizen, named **Eustace St. Pierre**, stood up and said, "Friends! what a pity it is to let so many die, when six of us can save them. For myself, I have hope in God that if I give up my life for the people, I shall have pardon for my sins. So I will be the first of the six to go out in my shirt, with my head and feet bare, and a rope round my neck, and give myself up to the English king. Then another citizen stood up and said that he would give his life, and so did a third, and a fourth, and a fifth, and a sixth.

II.

6. As the noble six, pale, and thin, and hollow-eyed, passed out of the city gates in their shirts, with ropes round their necks, and the keys of the town in their hands, there was not a dry eye in all the crowd, that came to see them and bless them ere they went. When they came to where the king was, they fell on their knees, and said, "Gentle king, we are six of the chief citizens of Calais, who come to put ourselves at your mercy to save the



Queen Philippa and the Citizens of Calais.

rest of our people; have pity on us, if it is your good will." There was not a man, who saw them, that did not weep, except the king, who was angry, and ground his teeth. "Away with them," he said, "to the hangman; the men of Calais have killed so many of my people, that I will have the lives of these six."

7. Then the good queen, **Philippa**, came to the king's tent, weeping so, for pity, that she could not stand; and, falling on her knees, she said, "My gentle lord, I have crossed the sea at great peril to see you, and I have not yet asked a favour from you. I pray you now, for Christ's sake, and for love of me, your wife, that you will have mercy on these six men." The king knit his brows, and was silent awhile; then he said, "Lady, I wish you had been elsewhere! You beg in such a way that I cannot deny you. Take these six men; I give them to you. Do with them as you will!" And the good queen took the six men, and gave them new clothes to put on, and feasted them, and sent them away with rich presents. But Calais was given up to the English king, and it was an English town for two hundred years.

QUESTIONS.

1. Where is Calais? Why did King Edward march against it? 2. Why did not Edward try to take Calais by force? How did he try to take it? 3. How long did the citizens hold out? On what did they live at the end? What message did they send to the king? 4. What was the king's reply? 5. How did the citizens receive the king's answer? Who was the first to offer himself? 6. What did the six citizens do? How did the king receive them? 7. What did the queen do? How long did Calais remain in English hands?

WAT TYLER (A.D. 1381).

1. One day, in the little town of **Dartford** in Kent, an officer was going from house to house to gather the taxes, when he stopped at the cottage of a tyler named Wat. Wat was at his work close by, laying tiles on the roof of a house, and only his wife and daughter were at home. Wat the tyler, or **Wat Tyler**, as we call him now, saw the man go into his cottage, and, soon after, heard a loud scream. In an instant, he jumped down from the roof, ran into his house, and seeing the officer rude to his daughter, struck him on the head with his hammer and killed him.

2. Now I must tell you that in those days—when **Richard the Second** was king—the poor were badly treated by the rich. Some of the poorest people were slaves. They were made to work on the same farm all their lives, and could be sold by their masters, like pigs or horses. Even those who were free, and lived in towns, had to work hard for low wages; and they were kept down by the rich, and made to pay heavy taxes, when they could barely earn money enough to keep themselves alive.

3. So when Wat Tyler killed the brutal officer, all the poor people, in the villages round about, took his part. They agreed to go to London, to lay their complaints before the king, and, if need be, to fight for what they thought to be their rights.

4. Before many days had passed, thousands of poor, rough, wild-looking men, some with bows,

some with rusty old swords, and many with scythes tied to the end of sticks, were on the march to London, and Wat Tyler rode at their head.

II.

5. When the rebels got to London, they marched up and down the streets, burning the houses of the rich, breaking open the doors of the prisons, and striking off the head of every man they met, who would not say he was "for King Richard and the common people."

6. The gold and silver plate, that they found in rich men's houses, they smashed to bits with hammers, but they took none of it away. They were so angry with one man, who stole a silver cup and hid it in his breast, that they flung him into the river—cup and all.

7. The young king, who was only sixteen, rode up to them at **Mile End** and called out to them, "What is it you want, my men?" "We want you to make us free," they said. And the king said he would give them their freedom, and sent them back to their homes.

8. But Wat Tyler, with many thousands of the rebels, stayed in London. Next day, King Richard met them again in **Smithfield**, and Tyler rode up to have a talk with the king. While Tyler was speaking, in a rough sort of way, he laid his hand on the king's bridle. Upon this, **Walworth**, the Lord Mayor of London, thinking the king in danger, plunged his dagger into Tyler's throat. Wat fell,

bleeding, from his horse, and one of the king's servants thrust his sword into him, and put an end to his life.



Death of Wat Tyler.

9. In an instant, the rebels bent their bows, and shouted out, "Kill! kill!" But the young king saved

himself by his coolness. Riding up to the mob, he said to them, "What are you doing, my good men? Tyler was a traitor. I will be your leader; follow me!" And they followed him to where his soldiers were lying in wait; and when the rebels saw the trap they had fallen into, they craved the king's pardon, and laid down their arms, and went quietly back to their homes.

10. Yet there was a good deal of blood shed, and many hundred rebels were hung up in chains, before the rising was put down; but after awhile, wages went up, the poor were treated with greater kindness, and in less than a hundred years from Wat Tyler's revolt, every man in England was a free man.

QUESTIONS.

1. Where did Wat Tyler live? How came he to kill the officer of taxes? 2. What was the state of the poor people in those days? How did the rich treat them? 3. What did the villagers agree to do when Wat Tyler killed the officer? 4. Where did they go? How were they armed? 5. What did the rebels do as soon as they got to London? 6. What did they do with the gold and silver plate? 7. What did the young king say to them? 8. What became of Wat Tyler? 9. How did the king save himself from the rebels? 10. Was the rioting put down at once? What was the end of it?

QUEEN MARGARET AND THE ROBBER

(A.D. 1464).

1. One day, when roses were in bloom, two angry lords came to hot words in the **Temple Garden**, by the side of the river Thames. In the midst of their quarrel, one of them plucked a white rose

from a bush, and, turning to those who were near him, said, "He who will stand by me in this quarrel, let him pluck a white rose with me, and wear it in his hat." Then the other lord tore a red rose from a bush, and said, "Let him, who will stand by me, pluck a red rose, and wear it as his badge."

2. Now this quarrel in the Temple Garden was a very sad thing indeed, for it led to a great civil war, that is, a war in which people of the same nation fight one against the other. It was called the "**War of the Roses**," for every soldier wore a white or red rose on his helmet, to show what side he fought for.

3. The king, **Henry the Sixth**, and his wife, **Queen Margaret**, sided with the "Red Roses," and it was a sad sight to see the king and all the great lords trying to kill each other. You will read some day of all the great battles that were fought, and all the cruel deeds that were done during those dreadful times; but I shall tell you now one story of the war, to show you what an awful thing war is.

4. In a battle fought at **Hexham**, by the river Tyne, the king's side was beaten, and Queen Margaret, with her little son, had to fly for her life. She had not gone far from the battle-field when she was met by a band of savage robbers. They stopped her, and took all her rich jewels from her, and tore the gold rings from her fingers; and, holding a drawn sword over her head, swore they would kill her if she dared to stir.

5. The poor queen fell on her knees, and cried, and begged them to have pity on her, and spare the young prince, her only son. Now while the queen was on her knees, the robbers began to quarrel among themselves, as to how they should share their plunder; and, drawing their swords, they fought one against another. When the queen saw them cutting each other's throats, she leapt to her feet, and, taking the young prince by the hand, made off with him as fast as she could.

II.

6. There was a thick wood close at hand, and Queen Margaret plunged into it. But she was sorely afraid all the while, and trembled from head to foot; for she knew this wood was a hiding-place for all the robbers and outlaws in those wild and lonely parts. Every tree she saw, she fancied it was a man, with a drawn sword in his hand making ready to kill her.

7. But she went on and on, through the dark forest, this way and that, not knowing where she was going, till she saw by the light of the rising moon a tall, fierce man step out from behind a tree, and come walking up to her. She knew by his dress that he was a robber, but, thinking he might have children of his own, she made up her mind to throw herself on his mercy.

8. When he came near, she spoke to him. "Friend," she said, "for God's sake, have pity on me. I am the queen. Kill me, if thou wilt, but



Queen Margaret and the Robber.

spare my son. He is the son of the king. Take him; I will trust him to thee. Keep him safe from those who seek his life, and God will have pity on thee for all thy sins."

9. The tears of the queen moved the heart of the fierce robber. He took up the prince in his arms, and bidding the queen follow him, led them to a cave in the rocks, where he gave them food to eat, and kept them safe for two days, when their friends came up and took care of them. If ever you go to Tyneside, you may see this robber's cave in Hexham Forest. It is on the bank of a little stream that flows at the foot of a hill, and to this day the people call it "Queen Margaret's Cave."

QUESTIONS.

1. How did the "War of the Roses" begin? 2. Why was it called the "War of the Roses"? 3. Who were king and queen then? Which side did they take? 4. Who lost the battle of Hexham? Who was with the queen? Into whose hands did they fall? What did the robbers do to the queen? 5. How did she manage to get away? 6. Where did the queen run to? What was she afraid of? 7. Who met her in the wood? 8. What did the queen say to the robber? 9. What did the robber do? What is this robber's den called now?

THE STORY OF THE BLOODY TOWER

(A.D. 1483).

1. If ever you go through the Tower of London, you will pass by a small building called the "**Bloody Tower,**" in which there is a little chamber at the top of some stone stairs. In this same little room,

a most wicked and shameful deed was done in the cruel days gone by. I must tell you that when **King Edward the Fourth** died, he left two sons, **Edward**, the Prince of Wales, who was thirteen years old, and his little brother, the **Duke of York**, who was only ten.

2. The boys were left in care of an uncle, called **Richard**, a cruel, bad man with a crook back, who took them from their mother, and kept them in the Tower. Now Richard Crookback was as cunning as he was wicked, and by and by he made the people believe that young Prince Edward was not fit to be king, and got them to make him king in his place. After he was made king, Richard was more cruel than ever. He never went to see the princes, or let them stir out of the Tower; but shut them up in the little room I told you of, and had a fierce man, called Black Will, to wait on them and see that they did not run away.

3. The poor little princes were very sad and unhappy, shut up in this lonely chamber; and instead of laughing and playing, like other little boys, they used to sit still and cry. One day, the young king—for he was king, you know, though he never wore a crown—sighed, and said to his little brother, “I would not care if my uncle took my crown, if he would only give me my life.”

4. But Richard Crookback wanted to get rid of the princes, for his crown was not safe as long as they lived. Yet he knew the governor of the Tower, **Sir Robert Brackenbury**, was a good man, and would not hurt the young princes for any one. So

one night, he sent a bad man, named **Sir James Tyrrel**, to the Tower, with orders to Sir Robert



The Princes put into the Tower.

Brackenbury to give up the keys to him. Two fierce, rough men went with him. One was Tyrrel's

own groom, a big, broad fellow named **Dighton**; the other was a man called **Forest**, a surly villain, who had made murder his trade.

5. As soon as Tyrrel had got the keys of the Tower, and had sent the governor away, he told the two men to go to the little room where the princes slept, while he waited outside and kept watch. Slowly and softly they stole up the stone stairs—a dark lantern in their hands—and came into the room where the princes lay asleep. They were in the same bed. Their little arms were round each other's necks, and their soft sweet faces were touching each other. A prayer-book lay beside them on the bed.

6. For a moment, the heart of one of the villains was moved, and he said he could not kill them, they looked so sweet and innocent. But the other man put him in mind of all the money they were to have, and then they took the bedclothes and covered the faces of the children, and pressed the pillows on the top, and kept them tight down, till the poor little princes were quite dead.

7. And then the men brought Tyrrel up to show him what they had done. By the light of the lantern, they dug a deep hole at the foot of the stairs, and put the dead bodies of the young princes into it. Then they covered them over with rubbish, put down the stones again, and went their way. Two hundred years after this horrid murder, some workmen, digging under the stone stairs in the Tower, found the bones of the two little princes. **Charles the Second**, who was then the king, had

them taken up and put in a coffin ; and they were buried in **Westminster Abbey**, where they lie to this day.

QUESTIONS.

1. Who were Edward the Fourth's two sons ? What age were they when their father died ? 2. Under whose care were they put ? What sort of a man was Richard Crookback ? What did he persuade the people to do ? Where were the princes sent to ? 3. What sort of a life did they lead in the Tower ? 4. What did Richard wish to do with the princes ? What was there to hinder him ? How did he manage ? 5. What did Tyrrel do when he had got the keys ? What did the murderers see when they got into the room ? 6. How did they murder the princes ? 7. What did they do with the bodies ? Were they ever found ? When ? What became of them

THE GOOD SIR PHILIP SYDNEY (A.D. 1554-86.)

1. In the days of **Queen Elizabeth**, there were many brave, and many wise men, whom you will read about when you grow older. But one of the bravest, wisest, and best of them all, was the good **Sir Philip Sidney**. He was a daring soldier, as well as a scholar, and a poet. He was born at **Penshurst**, a pretty old manor house in Kent. If ever you go there, you may see "Sir Philip Sydney's oak," which he planted with his own hand.

2. Sir Philip was tall, and fair, and handsome, and had such sweet and winning ways, that no one could help loving him. Queen Elizabeth was very fond of him. She called him *her Philip*, and would scarcely ever let him out of her sight. People in

far-off lands had heard how good and wise Sir Philip was. The men of **Poland**, at one time, asked him to be their king ; but the queen said she



Sir Philip Sidney and the wounded Soldier.

could not spare him, for he was "the fairest jewel in her crown."

3. But when war broke out in Holland, Sir Philip was sent over to fight against the enemies of

England. In his last battle—near the town of **Zutphen**—he had two horses shot under him. Then he mounted a third horse, and led on his men to the charge. But before the battle was over, a bullet struck him, and broke his thigh bone. Then one of his own soldiers took hold of his horse's bridle, and led Sir Philip slowly to the rear.

4. It was plain to see that he was dying. His face was deadly pale, his leg was bleeding fast, and he was dizzy and faint from loss of blood. His tongue was so parched with thirst, that he begged for a drink of water. A bottle of water was brought him. He lifted it to his mouth, and was just going to drink, when a poor soldier, who was also badly hurt, was carried past.

5. The soldier saw the bottle of water, and looked at it with longing eyes. At that very instant Sir Philip took the water from his own lips, without even tasting it, and gave it to the common soldier to drink; saying, as he did so, "Poor fellow, he needs it more than I do." When Sir Philip died, as he did soon after, all England wept and mourned for him; and his body was brought across the sea, and buried in St. Paul's.

QUESTIONS.

1. In whose reign did Sir Philip Sidney live? 2. What sort of man was he? 3. Where was he sent to fight? Where and how was he wounded? 4. Tell the story of Sir Philip and the wounded soldier. 5. Where was Sir Philip Sydney buried?

SIR WALTER RALEIGH (A.D. 1552-1618).

1. I must tell you of another famous man, who lived in the days of Queen Elizabeth. One day, as the queen was walking down to the river, to go on board the royal barge, a crowd stood waiting to see her pass. Among them was a gay, handsome, young man, who wore a bright velvet cloak on his shoulders. He had pushed his way to the front, and was gazing at the queen, when he saw her stop before a little pool of muddy water, for she was afraid to wet her feet. In an instant, he stepped out from the crowd, took off his cloak, and spread it on the damp ground; and the queen, blushing and smiling, walked over it, and passed on.

2. But she was so pleased with the young man, that she sent for him to come to her court, and was very fond of him ever after. His name was **Walter Raleigh**. He was not only gay and handsome, but he was brave and clever as well. He could do almost any thing. He was soldier, sailor, poet,—all in one. He beat the **Spaniards** in many a brave fight, both on land and sea; and he made poems



Sir Walter Raleigh.

and wrote books that you may read when you are older.

3. But he loved, above all things, to sail to far-off countries, and find out new and strange lands. Once, when he sailed to **America**, he brought back some potatoes and tobacco. It was the first time they had ever been seen in this country.

4. Sir Walter planted his potatoes on his own land, in **Ireland**; and they grew so well there that the Irish people have ever since used potatoes as their chief food.

5. He used to smoke his tobacco in a silver pipe. One day he was having a quiet smoke, when a servant came into his room with a jug of ale. This servant had never seen a man smoking before; and when he saw the smoke coming out of Sir Walter's mouth, he threw the jug-full of ale into his face, and ran away as fast as he could, crying out that his master was on fire!

QUESTIONS.

1. What did Walter Raleigh do that pleased the queen?
 2. What sort of a man was he?
 3. What sort of life did he like to lead? What did he bring from America?
 4. What did he do with the potatoes?
 5. Tell the story of Sir Walter Raleigh and the jug of ale.
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THE MURDER OF CHARLES THE FIRST

(A.D. 1649).

1. There was once a king of England called **Charles the First**, who wanted to have his own way—right or wrong—in all things. He thought that because

he was king, he could break the law when he liked, and rule the land as he pleased. It was a great pity. For Charles was a good man, in some ways; and if he had been just and kind to his people, I think they would have loved him very much.

2. But he made them pay taxes that were quite unjust, and tried to do away with the **Parliament**, and rule the land by himself. Now this was very wrong. It was going against the rights of the people, and against the laws of the land.

3. So Parliament tried to stop him. But it was no use—the king would have his way; and at last a great civil war broke out between the king and the Parliament. The war lasted for three years. Then **Oliver Cromwell**—a stern, rough man, but the best general on the Parliament side—beat the king, and broke up his army, in a great battle at **Naseby**.

4. From that day, the poor king was an outcast, and was hunted from place to place by Cromwell's red-coats. He had a hard time of it. Many a day he had not a bit to eat; and many a night, hungry and foot-sore, he lay down to sleep in the lonely woods. At last he gave himself up.

5. But Parliament could not agree what to do with him. Most of them pitied him, and wanted to make friends with him. But the chief men of the army, who had now all power in the land, had made up their minds that he should die. So Cromwell gave orders for Charles to be brought to trial, for having made war against his people. But neither the lords nor the judges of the land would

try the king. Then Cromwell and his friends set themselves up as judges, and sent word to Charles to appear before them in **Westminster Hall**.

6. The king was led to trial by brutal soldiers, who mocked him, and pointed their pistols at him,



King Charles I. led to Trial

as they walked by his side. The people in the streets had pity on him, and cried out to him as he passed, "God save your majesty," "God keep you from your enemies." But they could not help him. The trial lasted seven days. Then sentence of death

was passed on the king, and the savage soldiers led him to **Whitehall**. That night, while he lay awake in bed, he heard the hammers of the workmen, as they drove the nails into the scaffold on which he was to die.

II.

7. Next day, two of Charles's children, the little princess Elizabeth and her younger brother, came to see their father for the last time. They cried, and cried, till their eyes were so swollen they could hardly see. The king did all he could to comfort them; and told them that he forgave his enemies, and hoped God would forgive them too. He took the little prince on his knee, and said to him: "Sweetheart, they will cut off thy father's head, and will, perhaps, make thee a king. But mark what I say: thou must not let them make thee king, as long as thy brothers Charles and James live." And the little fellow looked up through his tears, and said, "No, father, I will be torn in pieces first."

8. When morning broke—the morning of the day on which the king had to die—snow lay on the ground, and on all the house-tops. The king, on seeing it, put on an extra shirt. "If I shake with cold," he thought, "my enemies will say I tremble for fear." When food was placed before him he would not touch it. But Bishop Juxon, who had been praying with him, said, "You have had a long fast; the weather is cold, and you may faint." "You are right," replied the king; and he took a bit of bread and a glass of wine. "Now," said he,

in a cheerful voice, "I am ready, let the rascals come!"

9. As the clock tolled one, the king was led through an open window on to the black scaffold which faced the street. With a clear eye, and a calm, proud look on his worn but handsome face, the king looked around him. He saw nothing but soldiers, and pikes, and flashing swords. The people were afar off, and out of all hearing. Walking up to the headsman, he pointed to the block. "Place it," he said, "so that it may not shake." "It is quite firm," said the man. "I shall say a short prayer," said the king; "and when I thrust my hand out, thus,—strike!" The king said a prayer to himself, raised his eyes to heaven, and kneeling down, laid his head on the block. A minute passed—Charles put out his hand—the axe fell—and the head of a murdered king rolled upon the scaffold. A groan of pain and horror rose from that vast crowd, so sad and pitiful, that those who heard it thought of it with a shudder, even to their dying day.

QUESTIONS.

1. What sort of a king was Charles the First? 2. What wrong things did he try to do? 3. Who tried to stop him? What did the quarrel lead to? 4. What did Charles do when he was beaten? 5. What set of men wanted to put him to death? Who was their leader? Where did they try the king? What for? 6. What sentence did they pass on him? 7. What took place between Charles and his two children? 8. What kind of a day was that on which he had to die? Why did he put on an extra shirt and take food? 9. Say what took place on the scaffold.

THE ESCAPE OF CHARLES THE SECOND

(A.D. 1650).

1. I must tell you, that after the death of Charles the First, Oliver Cromwell had his own way in England for a long time. He was at the head of the "rebel" army, and he would not let King Charles's son—who was called **Charles the Second**—be made king. Charles the Second led an army of Scots into England, and fought a great battle against Cromwell, at **Worcester**. But he was beaten; and those who fought for him were nearly all killed.

2. When the day was lost, King Charles put spurs to his horse, and with a few friends at his side, rode all night long. Cromwell had sent word, up and down the country, that he would give a thousand pounds to any man who would take the king, or tell where he was; and would cut off the head of any one who dared to give him shelter. So the king and his friends rode softly along quiet lanes, keeping away from the farms and villages.

3. But at break of day they came to a farm called **Boscobel**, where there lived a family of wood-cutters of the name of **Pendrell**. The Earl of Derby, who was with the king, knew the Pendrells well. There were five brothers of them. They had once saved the earl's life, when Cromwell's soldiers were after him, and he knew them to be true to the king. They were very poor, but what of that? They were brave and faithful, and cared neither for Cromwell's threats, nor for his gold.

The Earl of Derby went up to Will Pendrell, and said to him: "Will! here is the king. I can trust him with you. Keep him safe!"

4. But Cromwell's men were close at hand, and it was not safe for the king to stay in the house. So Will Pendrell led him into a wood that was just near, and told him to hide there, and he and his brothers would keep watch. It rained from morn till night, and the king was wet to the skin. But the kind-hearted wood-cutters brought him bread and cheese to eat, and a thick blanket to sit on; and the king sat under a tree till it grew quite dark.

5. But he wanted to cross the river **Severn** and get into **Wales**, thinking he would be safer there. So Dick Pendrell got the king to put on an old, rusty suit of his, and a pair of thick shoes; and stained his hands and face with walnut juice, to make him look like a woodman. When Charles was ready, Dick went with him to show him the way. But when they got to the banks of the Severn, they found Cromwell's red-coats keeping watch at all the fords and bridges. They had taken away all the boats too, and soldiers were pacing up and down the river bank to stop the king, or any of his party, from crossing into Wales.

6. After hiding all day in a hay-loft, the king, with Dick Pendrell, started back for Boscobel. They made their way in the dark across fields, and over hedges and ditches. The king's heavy shoes were too big for him, and got full of sand and water. His feet were so sore that he could scarcely

crawl along, and he had to put bits of paper between his toes to ease the pain. But at last, they got back to Boscobel, and King Charles went and hid again in the wood.

II.

7. When the king went back into the wood, he found one of his own officers, **Colonel Careless**, hiding there, and went up and spoke to him. While



Charles II. hiding in the Oak Tree.

they were talking, they heard the clank of swords, and the tramp of horses' feet. The soldiers were coming into the wood. What were they to do? There was not a moment to lose. A big oak tree stood near them; and they got up into it, and hid among the branches.

8. It was lucky for them that the leaves grew thick, for soon some of Cromwell's troopers came riding by. They could hear them say, as they looked up and down, that they were sure the king was near, and it would be a bad job for him if they caught him. But they didn't catch him. He stayed in the tree all day. The Pendrells gave him food, and brought him a cushion to sit on. The king was very tired. He had had no sleep for two nights. So he laid his head in the lap of Colonel Careless and fell asleep.

9. Charles stayed at Boscobel for two or three days, but there were so many "rebels" about, that it was not safe for him to stay longer. So one of the Pendrells went to Colonel Lane, who lived some miles off, to see what could be done to get the king away. **Jane Lane**, the colonel's daughter, was going to **Bristol**; so it was agreed that Charles should go with her, and act as her groom or manservant. The king put on a suit of grey, like a serving-man, mounted a strong horse, and took Jane Lane behind him on the pillion, as was the custom in those days. Then he set out for Bristol, in the hope of taking ship there.

10. He had many a narrow escape before he got to his journey's end. One day, when his horse had lost a shoe, he had to stop at a smithy to have it shod. The black-smith said to him, "What news to-day? Have they caught that *rogue*, Charles Stuart, yet?"—meaning the king. "No," said Charles, chuckling to himself, "they haven't caught him yet. But when they do catch him, I hope

they'll cut his head off." "So do I," said the black-smith.

11. Another time, when he came to an inn, he found the stable-yard full of Cromwell's soldiers. If he had turned back, he would most likely have been found out. So he put a bold face on, and rode his horse right in the midst of them. "Now then, you stupid fool!" cried the soldiers, "can't you see where you are going?" They little knew that that "stupid" groom was Charles Stuart, king of England!

12. At last the king got a ship on the south coast, and set sail for France. He stayed abroad till Cromwell was dead, and till his people sent for him to come back again. As he rode into London on the 29th of May—his own birthday—there was great joy among the people, and most of them wore oak leaves in their caps to keep them in mind of the "royal oak" that saved King Charles from his enemies. The sign of the "Royal Oak" may still be seen in every town and village, and even yet we call

"The twenty-ninth of May—
Royal oak day."

QUESTIONS.

1. Who was the chief man in England after the death of Charles the First? Who fought against him? Why? Where was the battle fought? Who won? 2. What did Charles the Second do after the battle? 3. Where did he stop at next day? 4. Who took care of him? Where did they hide him? 5. Say what you know about his trying to get into Wales. 6. How did he get back? 7. Whom did the king find in the wood? How did they hide from the soldiers? 8. How did the king rest

himself? 9. How did Charles escape to Bristol? 10. What took place at the smithy on the way? 11. What did he do at the inn where Cromwell's soldiers were? 12. How did he get away from England? When did he come back? Why is the 29th of May called "Royal Oak Day"?

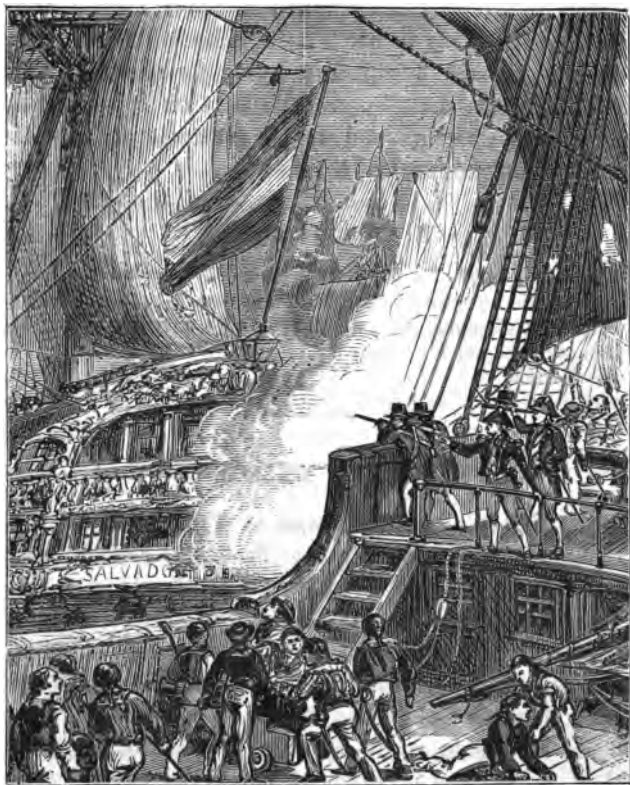
THE BRAVE LORD NELSON (A.D. 1758-1805).

1. When some of your grand-fathers were little boys, there was a great war going on between England and France. Many of the battles were fought at sea. In those days, England had good ships, and brave sailors, and bold captains, in plenty; but the best sailor, and boldest captain of them all, was **Lord Horatio Nelson**. When he first went to sea, at twelve years of age, he was a weak bit of a lad; but he was full of pluck and spirit, and he never knew what it was to be afraid.

2. He sailed all over the world before he was a man; and when war broke out, he was made captain of a man-of-war. He fought and beat the French in many a brave sea-fight; and you will read all about his battles when you are older. In one battle he lost an eye: in another, he lost an arm; but though he had but one eye and one arm, he was always first in the fight, and last out.

3. He never would give in. At the battle of **Copenhagen**, two of his ships ran aground. **Admiral Parker**, who had command of the fleet, thought Nelson had no chance of winning; so he hung out the signal to "stop fighting." But Nelson took no

heed of it. His one eye danced with glee as the guns roared, and ropes and bits of timber flew



Nelson fighting the French.

about in the air. When a shot struck the mast of his own ship, and broke it to bits, he only said,

"Warm work this! but I wouldn't be out of it for all the world!"

4. Some one told him that the signal was up for "stop fighting." He laughed a bitter laugh; and putting the glass to his *blind* eye, he said: "I don't see the signal. Keep mine flying for closer battle. Nail it to the mast." And he kept on fighting till he won the battle; and for his great victory he was made Lord-Admiral of the fleet.

QUESTIONS.

1. What kind of a boy was Nelson when he went to sea?
 2. How did he get on during the French war?
 3. How did he behave at Copenhagen?
 4. What did he do when they told him of the signal for "stop fighting"? What was the end of the battle?
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THE DEATH OF NELSON (A.D. 1805).

1. Nelson's last fight was at **Trafalgar**, off the coast of **Spain**. A great fleet of French and Spanish ships was on its way to England. The French hoped to sweep the English ships from the seas, and land a French army on our coasts. But Nelson went out to fight them, and he came up with them in Trafalgar's Bay.

2. He made ready at once for battle, knowing that if he won it England would be saved. He felt sure of victory. Yet he could not help thinking that he would lose his own life before the day was over. When Captain Blackwood, who came for orders, left to go back to his ship, Nelson

shook hands with him, and said, "God bless you, Blackwood! I shall never see you again!"

3. Before the battle began, Nelson hung out his last famous signal, "England expects every man to do his duty;" and the sailors, in answer, gave a ringing British cheer. Nelson had on his admiral's coat, with all his medals and crosses on his breast. His officers asked him to take them off, saying, that if the French saw them, they would know who he was, and would be sure to fire at him. But Nelson would not. "No," he said, "in honour I won them, and in honour I will die with them."

4. In the midst of the battle, when every man was sure of victory, a bullet from a French ship struck Nelson in the back, and he fell with his face on the deck. Captain Hardy was soon at his side. "Hardy," said Nelson, "they have done for me at last." "I hope not," said Hardy. "Yes," replied Nelson, "my back-bone is shot through."

5. They carried him down into the cockpit, while the battle still went on. After a while, Hardy went down to see him, and the two men shook hands. "Well, Hardy," said Nelson, "how goes the day with us?" "Very well," said Hardy, "ten of the French ships have given in." When he found that all went well, he spoke of himself. "Hardy," he said, "I am a dead man. I am going fast."

6. Hardy went on deck again, but came back at the end of an hour, and told Nelson that fifteen ships had been taken. "That is well," said Nelson. Then he took Hardy's hand, and said to him, in

a low voice, "Don't throw me over-board! Kiss me!" Hardy knelt down and kissed him. "Now," said Nelson, "I am satisfied. God bless you, Hardy! Thank God I have done my duty." These were his last words. The battle had been won; England was safe; and as brave a spirit as ever lived had gone to his rest.

QUESTIONS.

1. What did the French hope to do with their fleet when Nelson went out to stop them? 2. How do you know that Nelson felt he would be killed in the battle? 3. What was his last signal? What did he say when they asked him to take off his crosses and medals? 4. How was he struck down? What did he say to Captain Hardy? 5. Where did they carry him to? What message did Hardy bring him first? 6. What news did he bring him the second time? What did Nelson say?—what were his last words?

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